through a forest mostly of fruit trees, the very creepers, which take the place of our ivy, heavy with a great and delicious fruit. Presently we come to a house in a pretty garden, quite by itself, very nicely kept, the doors and windows open, no one about, and no noise but that of the sea. It looked like a house in a fairy-tale, and just beyond we must ford a river, and there we saw the inhabi-tants. Just in the mouth of the river, where it met the sea waves, they were ducking and bathing and screaming together like a covey of birds : seven or eight little naked brown boys and girls as happy as the day was long ; and on the banks of the stream beside them, real toys—toy ships, full rigged, and with their sails set, though they were lying in the dust on their beam ends. And then I knew for sure they were all children in a fairy story, living alone together in that lonely house, with the only toys in all the island : and that I

had myself driven, in my four-wheeled gig, into a corner of the fairy story, and the question was, should I get out again ? But it was all right; I guess only one of the wheels of the gig had got into the fairy story; and the next jolt the whole